

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action dated November 12, 2003, claims 31-60 were pending. Claims 31-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The specification has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

An expedited response was filed December 18, 2003 and an advisory action was issued. In the advisory action, the Examiner indicated that the response was not entered because it raised new issues that require further searches.

In this response, no claim has been canceled or amended. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner consider the amendments and remarks in the response filed December 18, 2003.

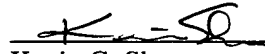
In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 2/12, 2004


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